
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SPRING TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following information concerning the commercial spring troll fishery:

The spring troll areas and Terminal Harvest Areas (THA) listed below will remain open until further notice:

Ketchikan (101-29)	West Behm (101-90)	Neets Bay THA (101-95)
Clarence Strait (106-20)	Steamer Point (106-30)	Ernest Sound (107-10)
Anita Bay THA (107-35)	Port Armstrong THA (109-11)	Frederick Sound (110-31)
Chatham Strait (112-12)	Hidden Falls THA (112-22)	Sitka Sound (113-41)

The spring troll areas listed below will be open according to the following schedule. All areas will open at 12:01 a.m. of the opening date and close at 11:59 p.m. of the closing date. The openings may be extended if the Alaska hatchery contributions are high. Information on extensions will be given in a future news release.

SCHEDULE OF INITIAL TROLL OPENINGS:

Ketchikan area:

West Rock (101-21)	May 15-17
Point Alava (101-41)	May 15-17
Stone Rock Bay (102-09)	May 13-14
Kendrick Bay (102-10)	May 12-14

Petersburg/Wrangell area:

Sumner Strait (105-41)	May 13-14
Snow Pass (106-41)	May 16-18
Chichagof Pass (108-10)	May 13-15

Chatham Strait area:

Little Port Walter (109-10)	May 15-17
Tebenkof Bay (109-62)	May 13-15

Sitka area:

Western Channel (113-01)	May 13
Redoubt Bay (113-30)	May 13-14
Goddard Bay (113-32)	May 13-14
Salisbury Sound (113-62)	May 13-15

Pelican/Icy Strait area:

Lisianski Inlet (113-95) May 13–15
Port Althorp (114-50) May 13–15

The following areas will open May 12–18:

Hawk Inlet (112-65)	Stag Bay (113-97)	Cross Sound (114-21)
South Passage (114-23)	Homeshore (114-25)	Point Sophia (114-27)

Yakutat area:

Yakutat Bay (183-10) May 13

Initial openings in other spring troll areas will be announced in future news releases. Biorka Island will open during the week of June 2, followed by the Northern Chatham Strait area during the week of June 9.

REVISED AREA DESCRIPTION:

Stone Rock Bay (Fishery area 102-09): new area: Waters of Clarence Strait north of the latitude of 54°43.34' N. lat, **west** of the longitude of 131°56.42' W. long, and south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of the northern entrance to Stone Rock Bay at 54°45.98' N. lat.

The description for Stone Rock Bay published in the *2013 Spring Troll Management Plan* and in a news release issued April 26 incorrectly stated "...**east** of the longitude of 131°56.42' W. long...".

CODED-WIRE-TAGGED FISH

The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold [5 AAC 29.140 (b)]. Permit holders who freeze their catch onboard are asked to contact the department prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. An Exemption Permit is required to allow the removal of heads from Chinook salmon harvested in the spring areas prior to delivery.

CATCH REPORTING

It is extremely important to keep fish caught in different fishery areas separated so that accurate dockside sampling can occur by department personnel. In order to maximize the harvest of Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon in the spring fisheries, catches must be reported accurately. If more than one area or fishery is fished, or fish are kept for more than one period, each troller and tender is required to keep and report these catches separately on separate fish tickets (5AAC 29.130). The fishery name and the fishery area number must be reported on all fish tickets, as well as dates that the fishing trip started and ended. All fish legally retained in the commercial salmon troll fishery, whether for sale or retained for **personal use, must be recorded on a fish ticket.**

NEW REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

During the 2012 Board of Fisheries (BOF) meeting, new regulations were adopted that will affect the management of the 2013 spring troll fisheries. **Coho salmon may now be retained beginning June 1.**

A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon hand troll or power troll vessel [5 AAC 47.041 (a)], though **may not sport fish and commercial fish for salmon from the same vessel on the same day** [5 AAC 47.041 (f)]. A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial fishing, other than a charter vessel when paying clients are onboard, shall mark the salmon by **removing its dorsal fin** immediately upon bringing a salmon onboard [5 AAC 47.041 (c)].

GROUND FISH BYCATCH

Fishermen are reminded that lingcod may be taken as bycatch in the salmon troll fishery from **May 16** through November 30, or until lingcod area allocations are taken, whichever occurs first. The amount of

lingcod bycatch allowed in the troll fishery varies by Lingcod Management Area. Lingcod retention closures will occur as allocations are taken. For additional information on groundfish bycatch in the salmon troll fishery, refer to the *2013 Spring Troll Fishery Management Plan*, the department news release issued January 2, "*Groundfish Bycatch in the Commercial Troll Fishery*", or contact the groundfish staff in Sitka at 907-747-6688.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is 1S0413.

The 2013 Spring Troll Management Plan, which includes area maps, is available online and in area offices.

The spring troll fishery webpage can be found at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon_trollspring

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Hoonah</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983		747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
<i>Troll Hotline</i>	225-6870	772-3700		747-8765	465-8765			